WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Future administrative set-up of Delhi

*44. SHRI RANJIT SINGH :

SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Special team of his Ministry has examined/reviewed all the recommendations made by the Balakrishnan Committee on the future administrative set-up of Delhi; and whether views of various political parties have also been ascertained in this regard ;

(b) if so, by when the recommendations are likely to be cleared by Government for implementation ;

(c) whether any time-bound programme has so far been chalked out by Government for the broad parameters of the likely changes to be brought about in the present administrative set-up of Delhi, particularly the dates of holding elections after the delimitation of Constituencies etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Decision has already been taken on the recommendation of the Committee pertaining to the structure of the Government for the national capital. No decision has, however, yet been taken in regard to the restructuring of the local bodies and certain other service agencies.

(c) and (d) Elections to the Assembly can be held only after the work of delimitation of Assembly constituencies is completed by the Election Commission.

Bangladeshi Refugees in Delhi

*45. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any survey of the migrant families from Bangladesh that have settled in the slum areas of Delhi ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) what is Government's policy in respect of settling of Bangladeshi refugees in the country ; and

(d) the manner in which Government propose to deal with the problem of Bangladeshi refugees in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : (a) to (d) Illegal immigrants from Bangladesh enter India clandestinely and easily mix with the local population. Limited attempts have been made in the past to survey such illegal immigrants living in some slum areas. They have not yielded the desired information. It is, however, estimated that over one lakh illegal Bangladeshi immigrants are living in Delhi. All possible efforts are being made to detect and send back illegal Bangladeshi immigrants. The task of identifying illegal Bangladesh immigrants is, however, complex and massive because of ethnic similarities and lack of cooperation and public awareness on the part of local population. The seriousness of the problem of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh has been taken up with the Bangladesh Government. Government have constantly reviewed the position and taken administrative steps, such as strengthening of measures at the border for checking illegal infiltration, strengthening of the Scheme of Prevention of Infiltration in the affected States, tightening of visa procedures and regulations for issue of visas to Bangladesh nationals, and creating computerised data for effective detection and deportation of illegal immigrants. Instructions have also been issued to State Governments and UT Administrations to carry out special drives for detection and deportation of illegal Bangladesh immigrants.